

ISAC Meeting – March 2013

ACTION OR INFORMATION ITEM

SPONSOR (Name/Email): Stas Burgiel (Stanley_burgiel@ios.doi.gov)

TOPIC: The Global Invasive Alien Species Information Partnership

SPEAKER (Name/Email): Jamie K. Reaser

1. DESCRIPTION OF AGENDA ITEM:

The Global Invasive Alien Species Information Partnership (GIASIPartnership) was launched at the 11th Conference of the Parties to the UN Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) in Hyderabad, India on 10 October 2012. Founding Partners include CABI International (CABI), the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), IUCN - Invasive Species Specialist Group (ISSG), the Natural History Museum - London, the Natural History Museum, Paris, Young Naturalists Network (India), and Anatrack, Ltd.

On October 19th, the Conference of the Parties to the CBD adopted its decision on invasive alien species. In paragraphs 21 and 22, the Parties explicitly recognize the importance of the GIASIPartnership, and call for participation and financial support:

21. Recognizing the vital importance of access to accurate information on invasive alien species in developing indicators to monitor the progress of achieving Aichi Biodiversity Target 9 and the need to maximize synergies among existing information services, welcomes the development of the Global Invasive Alien Species Information Partnership to further the joint work programme to strengthen information services on invasive alien species, as a contribution towards Aichi Biodiversity Target 9 (UNEP/CBD/COP/11/INF/34);

22. Recognizing also the progress made in developing the Global Invasive Alien Species Information Partnership and its importance in addressing invasive alien species at national, regional and global levels, invites relevant organizations and experts in biological invasion and information science to participate in the Partnership, encourages Parties, other Governments and donors to provide financial support to implement the plan of work, and requests the Executive Secretary to facilitate its implementation;

The Operational Plan for the GIASIPartnership can be found at: <http://www.cbd.int/doc/meetings/cop/cop-11/information/cop-11-inf-34-en.pdf>

2. WHY IS THIS ITEM IMPORTANT TO NISC / ISAC? HOW IS IT RELATED TO THE NATIONAL INVASIVE SPECIES MANAGEMENT PLAN?

A lack of reliable, readily accessible information has been identified as a barrier in government efforts to prevent, control, and eradicate invasive alien species. The Global Invasive Alien Species Information Partnership (GIASIPartnership) has been created to overcome this challenge. Through the Partnership, NISC member agencies will be able to both access and share information relevant to implementing the Plan in a more timely and effective manner. The various invasive alien species information services being provided/supported by the US government will be able to expand their reach globally by linking into the Information Gateway (portal) being developed by the GIASIPartnership.

3. PREVIOUS ACTIONS TAKEN BY NISC / ISAC ON THIS ITEM:

None. This is a new initiative.

4. ACTION REQUESTED OF NISC / ISAC:

Organizations which provide information and/or information tools relevant to the prevention, control, and eradication of invasive alien species are invited to join the Partnership by signing a Memorandum of Cooperation (MoC) with the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (SCBD).

Although the US government is not a Party to the CBD, US agencies could sign the MoC with the SCBD.

GIASIPartnership working groups are open to anyone interested in helping serve the invasive alien species information needs of Parties to the CBD.

Contact Dr. Jamie K. Reaser (CBD Consultant) at ecos@nelsoncable.com.

5. ALTERNATIVES:

6. ATTACHMENTS:

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Those wishing to stay informed about GIASIPartnership can "like" the GIASIPartnership Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/GIASIPartnership?fref=ts>) and follow GIASIP on Twitter (<https://twitter.com/GIASIP>).